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JAN 23 2009

Virginia Air Board
c/o Terry Darton
Air Permit Manager
13901 Crown Court
Woodbridge, VA 22193

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Dear Air Board,

I am writing in support of Mirant Power and their efforts to improve their facilities. They have applied for permission to invest in a smoke stack merge project that will effectively bring the plant up to the same standards as newer plants, without making major modifications to the stacks themselves. This will not only benefit the surrounding communities through cleaner air, but avoids more than doubling the height of the stacks, which would pose problems for the airport.

I am retired and have been a long time member of this community, and I appreciate the efforts this company is making to improve the quality of our environment while allowing them to remain a strong supplier of energy to our grid. One thing I know for sure is, if we force this plant to close and sell off the land, we will create a larger demand for energy while reducing the energy supply considerably.

It seems clear to me that the best course of action would be to follow the advice of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. They have approved Mirant's plan and feels it is a good compromise. The proposed stack merge takes into consideration the needs of the community, while properly addressing the environmental concerns of the people. I ask that the Virginia Air Board supports the plan and allows the permit to be issued.

Best,



Calvin Alston